
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, AND
OTHER RELEVANT STATE AGENCIES TO CONDUCT A STATEWIDE DNA
STUDY TO DETERMINE WHETHER RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WITH THE
GENETIC VARIANT RS12252-C MAY BE AT A HEIGHTENED RISK OF
INFLUENZA.

1 WHEREAS, influenza, or the flu, is the most frequent cause
2 of death from a vaccine-preventable disease in the United
3 States; and

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5 WHEREAS, in 2018, the flu epidemic was widespread and
6 contributed to many deaths, particularly to those in high-risk
7 populations; and

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9 WHEREAS, DNA research has identified a genetic marker that
10 may increase the risk of influenza infection in persons of Asian
11 and Pacific Island ancestry; and

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13 WHEREAS, nearly two-thirds of Hawaii's resident population
14 claims such ancestry; and

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16 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State to protect
17 high-risk residents against the potentially deadly influenza
18 virus; now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
21 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
22 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Health,
23 University of Hawaii, and other relevant state agencies are
24 requested to conduct a statewide DNA study to determine whether
25 residents of the State with the genetic variant rs12252-C may be
26 at a heightened risk of influenza; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that findings of the DNA study be
29 utilized to advance statewide pandemic influenza mitigation
30 planning; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,
and President of the University of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

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